

Cowgirls beat Blue Jays; will face them again



Cowgirl Jayci Stone went up for a shot Tuesday while being double-teamed by the Norton defense at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Photo by Skilar Boland/The Goodland Daily News

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

With a solid win Tuesday over the Norton Lady Blue Jays, 69-43, the Goodland Cowgirls finished the regular season with a 15-5 record.

They will host the Norton Lady Blue Jays at Max Jones Fieldhouse at 6 p.m. Monday in the quarter-finals of the sub-state tournament.

"I can't say enough about the way the girls played," said a happy Cowgirl Coach Connie Livengood. "We passed well, shot well and rebounded well."

"We played team ball tonight. We did a good job of looking for the mismatch. When we are passing like that it is almost unstoppable," she said.

"I was a little worried in the first three minutes of the third quarter when we let them outscore us 10-2," Livengood said. "Then we took off and really got hot. It was fantastic. We played well Saturday night and tonight."

Looking to the rematch with Norton on Monday, Livengood said, "I expect to see a different team than we saw tonight. I think they were a little flat, and maybe some of the girls may not have been up to full strength."

"Norton has done well when they get hot, but tonight we were hot," she said. "Monday it will be for all the marbles because only the winner goes on."

The Cowgirls found themselves down early as Abbey Keiswetter hit the first of two three-point shots to give the Lady Blue Jays the lead.

Goodland's first point of the game was a free throw by Lacey Brenner at the 7:38 mark. Erica Mann hit two baskets in quick succession to tie the score and give the Cowgirls the lead 5-3 with 4:41 left.

A foul on Mann gave Norton's Lindsay Hager a chance for a three-point

play to retake the lead 6-5 with 4:30 remaining. Hager was high point scorer for the Lady Blue Jays with 20 points and nine in the first quarter.

The Lady Blue Jays were playing a spread sort of offense with lots of long passes, and then they would get Hager open inside for a quick shot.

StevieLee Raymer retook the lead for the Cowgirls on two free throws. Raymer had four of her 14 points in the first quarter. Anny McCoy extended the Cowgirls' lead to five points on two free throws and a field goal with 2:10 left. McCoy had 14 points for the night.

With one minute left, Jessica Osborn got a steal and took it the length of the floor for a jump shot and the final Cowgirl points of the quarter to lead, 15-10. Osborn had 10 points on the night.

The first quarter ended with the Cowgirls leading 15-14. At the start of the second quarter there was some furious action with the ball moving quickly from end to end, but there was no scoring. The ball was tied up under the Goodland basket and the jump ball arrow was in Norton's favor, but moments later the ball was tied up under the Norton basket and went back to Goodland.

Jayci Stone broke the scoring drought with her first basket at the 6:40 mark. Stone had 10 points for the night including two three-point baskets in the third quarter to spark the Cowgirls. She had nine rebounds and nine assists plus two steals.

The Lady Blue Jays tried to keep it close, but the Cowgirls started pulling away and with less than a minute remaining, Hayley Jarmin hit her second field goal to give the Cowgirls a 31-22 lead at half-time. Jarmin had 4 points on the night, two assists and three rebounds.

The third quarter started with a shot by Mann bouncing off and Norton's Keiswetter hitting the second of her 3-point baskets. Again, this was followed by furious action with the ball being tied up under the Cowgirl basket, but the arrow favored Norton. However, the next time down the court the ball was tied up under the Norton basket and it went back to the Cowgirls.

Norton's Megan Walter hit a 3-point basket, and two baskets by Stef Sloan cut the Cowgirl lead to one-point with 4:45 remaining.

The next time down the court for the Cowgirls Stone had the ball in the corner and took a three-point shot which cleared the net and made it a four point lead.

The Cowgirls had run up a 51-34 lead at the end of the quarter. In the fourth, the Cowgirls outscored the Lady Blue Jays, 18-9.

With six minutes left, Coach Livengood put Jessica Vignery in, and Stephanie Fairbanks a couple of minutes later. Vignery hit one of two free throws with 3:35 remaining to make it 65-39.

Tess Schultz and Kendra Billinger came in with two minutes left.

Vignery hit the final basket for the Cowgirls with 15 seconds left to make the score 69-43. She got a steal a few seconds later, but the basket at the buzzer was waived off by the referee.

Fairbanks had one assist, and Schultz had one rebound in the final minutes.

If the Cowgirls win on Monday they will then travel to Pratt for the semi-finals on Thursday. There will be two games with the first to start at 6 p.m. Central Time and the second at 7:30 p.m. The finals will be Saturday at 6 p.m. in Pratt.

Boys and girls junior varsity beat Eagles

Both the boys and girls junior varsity basketball teams beat the Wray Eagles Saturday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

The junior varsity Cowboys were down 48-49 with 15 seconds left Saturday at home against the Wray Eagles and came back to win it 52-49.

Goodland led 37-35 at the end of the third quarter and worked their way to a 48-43 lead with a minute and a half left in the game. Wray came in with four points, getting an offensive rebound and put-back, and a jump-shot.

The cowboys called a time-out. When they came back they had the ball stolen and laid in on the inbound with 15 seconds left and found themselves down by one point.

The Cowboys worked themselves down court and Derrick Raymer let a jump-shot fly. It got the bounce off the rim and put the Cowboys back up with four seconds left. Wray threw in a long inbound intended for the other side of the court and had it intercepted by Cowboy Jared Doke. He got it to Drew Wilkens who was fouled with .1 seconds left. Wilkens ended the game and secured a Cowboy win by making both of his free throws.

The Cowgirls came out ahead of their contest 32-27. They outscored the Lady Eagles 10-4 in the first quarter, and ended up ahead 16-10 at the half. They came up with eight points in the third, compared to Wray's 7, and scored eight in the fourth while holding the Lady Eagles to three.

The Cowgirls led rebounds 32-27 and shot 25 percent from the floor. Wray shot 17 percent.

Goodland shot 40 percent from the free throw line, making eight out of 20, and Wray shot 62 percent, making eight out of 13.

Goodshot shot four three-pointers, two from Steph Fairbanks, and one each from Cortney Schields and Megan Leonard. None of the shots went in the basket.

Kendra Billinger and Megan McCall led scoring with eight points, followed by Fairbanks with seven. Tess Schultz had 4, Jennifer Mentzer and Schields, each 2, and Leonard 1.

Final turnovers lead to Cowboy loss to Norton

By Doug Stephens

The Goodland Daily News

The Goodland Cowboys basketball team took it to the last minute with the Norton Blue Jays in the last regular season game Tuesday night, but two turnovers led to a 65-64 loss.

"I am of course extremely disappointed we lost," Coach Jon McLean said, "but it was another great high school basketball game."

"We made a couple of critical mistakes in the last minute of the game. We had a couple of turnovers and we missed a couple of shots we normally would have made."

With the final season game putting their record at 9-11, the Cowboys will match up with the 11-8 Ulysses Tigers at 6 p.m. Mountain Time Tuesday at Ulysses for the first round of the sub-state tournament. If they win, they will play Scott City or Colby on Friday.

McLean is optimistic about Goodland's chances.

"Sub-state is wide open," he said. "There are seven teams who could pull out and win it, and we are one of those teams."

"I hope to see a lot of black and gold fans wherever we go."

He said the first round match will be a good game.

"It will be an even match," McLean said. "We match up with Ulysses well. We'll have to play well to win."

"We've playing well this last month, and we have a good chance."

The Cowboys had a chance to beat Norton Tuesday. With one minute left in the fourth quarter and the Cowboys up 60-59, Andrew Melia stole a Blue Jay inbound pass and took it down court. As he waited for his teammates to get set, Melia stood cradling the ball with one hand and held his other hand on his hip.

A Blue Jay knocked the ball out of his hands, and Melia chased it down past the time line. The official called a back-court violation. It was not a popular decision with the crowd, but it stood.

Matt Overlease of Norton scored on a drive and put his team up 61-60 with 35 seconds left. On Goodland's next possession Blue Jay Jeff Cox came up with a steal and was intentionally fouled by Kris Rubio with eight sec-

onds left.

Goodland called a time-out. Then it called two more before Cox could shoot his free throws. He made both, and put Norton up by three points. Jordan Riebel got the Goodland rebound and immediately called a time-out, Goodland's last.

Aaron Gittinger got the rebound and tossed it over to Riebel, who was pushed by Norton's Nick Green with 1.8 seconds left. Riebel made his first free throw, which dropped Norton's lead to two points. He intentionally missed his second shot. As all ten players fought for control of the rebound, Don Raymer was charged a foul for pushing Norton's Jared Sloan.

Sloan made both shots at the line and put the Jays up 65-61 with .8 seconds left. Riebel got the last inbound and threw it up from halfcourt. Perfect shot! The three-pointer counted at the buzzer, but still left the Cowboys with a one-point loss.

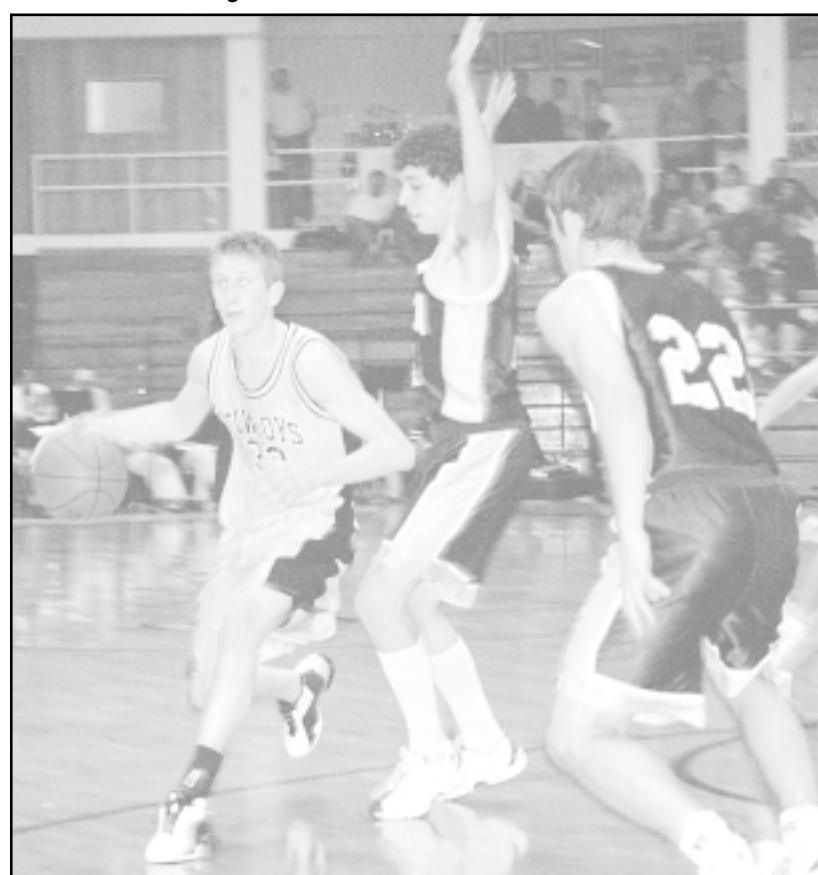
Goodland trailed by one point at the end of every quarter; 18-17 at the first, 34-33 at the half, and 46-45 at the third.

Goodland's biggest lead was four points four minutes into the fourth quarter. Norton led with six points with three minutes left in the half.

Melia jumped for the starting throw with Norton's 6-foot 5-inch Marc Thiele. Thiele controlled the jump and Blue Jay Andrew Walter missed a three-point attempt.

Melia scored the first points of the game on Goodland's first possession. The Cowboy crunchers, Melia and Raymer, came up with Goodland's first 11 points.

After Norton got a first five-point lead at 11-6, the Cowboys came back and tied it with a stop-and-pop shot by Gittinger at 13.



Cowboy Aaron Gittinger went around a Norton defender Tuesday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Photo by Skilar Boland/The Goodland Daily News

With Norton having its six point lead in the second, Bryan Mai put up a shot and missed, but Rubio came up with the board and the put-back. Norton missed two three-point attempts, and Raymer muscled his way through two Jay defenders to drop the lead to 32-30. Norton turned over possession with a traveling call, and Raymer was blocked by Thiele at the other end of the court.

As Norton tried to get down court after the block, Kevin Schulte knocked

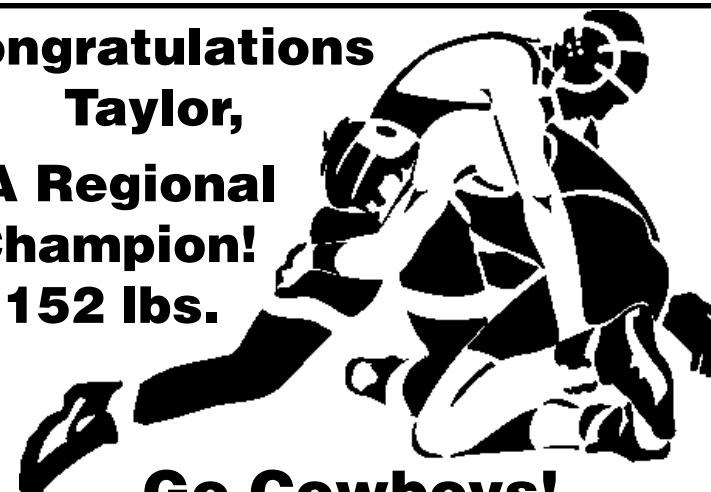
the ball out of Blue Jay Terry Petrie's hands and over to Melia. Melia got it over to Gittinger, who put up a three-pointer, and gave the Cowboys a 33-32 lead.

13 seniors honored

The Cowboys and Cowgirls finished the regular season Tuesday, and between the boys and girls games the senior basketball players and cheerleaders were honored for their efforts in an annual special ceremony.

Those honored along with their parents were Lacey Brenner, Danielle Hellerud, Tranda Ithrig, Hayley Jarmin, Brian Mai, Erica Mann, Mandi Meissinger, Andrew Melia, Kami Pianalto, StevieLee Raymer, Jordan Riebel, Abbey Scheopner and Jessica Vignery.

Congratulations Taylor, 4A Regional Champion! 152 lbs.



Go Cowboys!
Dad, Mom, Kendra, Grandpa & Grandma

Congratulations

to Maurice Daise

The Goodland Daily News "Don't Gamble with Love" winner.

He won with a Full House, three Queens and two tens.

Diane Luther turned in three Jacks and two fives.



Daise received a Valentine's dinner for two last Saturday night at Second Chance Bar & Grill.

TNT Auction

Machinery Consignment Sale
Notice of date change

March 13th

at Cochran Farm Supply



Get your consignments in early.

For more information call Tom Harrison (785) 899-3060, Tom Simpson (785) 443-1153 or Mike Cochran (785) 899-0096

TNT AUCTION

Tom Harrison, Auctioneer

(785) 899-3060 Work
(785) 465-9015 Home

HomeLand Real Estate
Goodland & Colby, KS

Tom Simpson, Auctioneer

(785) 443-1153 Work
(785) 462-3709 Home

Check our web site for details about upcoming auctions:
www.goodlandnet.com/tntauction

REPLACEMENT ENGINES

Most engines in stock or next day

36 Month/100,000 mile warranty
EXCHANGE PRICES STARTING AT:

350 GM.....\$922
2.8 GM.....\$1113
262 GM.....\$1189
302 FORD.....\$1124

HUNDREDS OF SIZES AVAILABLE

LOW MONTHLY PAYMENTS TO QUALIFIED BUYERS

MARSHALL ENGINE HEADQUARTERS

THE PARTS HOUSE
1502 Main • Goodland, Kan. • (785) 899-7511